

Form 5500

Annual Return/Report of Employee Benefit Plan

OMB Nos. 1210-0110 1210-0089

Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service

This form is required to be filed for employee benefit plans under sections 104 and 4065 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and sections 6057(b) and 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code).

2023

Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration

Complete all entries in accordance with the instructions to the Form 5500.

Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation

This Form is Open to Public Inspection

Part I Annual Report Identification Information

For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning 10/01/2023 and ending 09/30/2024

- A This return/report is for: a multiemployer plan, a multiple-employer plan, a single-employer plan, a DFE (specify), the first return/report, the final return/report, an amended return/report, a short plan year return/report (less than 12 months)
B This return/report is:
C If the plan is a collectively-bargained plan, check here.
D Check box if filing under: Form 5558, automatic extension, the DFVC program, special extension (enter description)
E If this is a retroactively adopted plan permitted by SECURE Act section 201, check here.

Part II Basic Plan Information—enter all requested information

1a Name of plan: F.L. CRANE & SONS, INC. EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN
1b Three-digit plan number (PN): 002
1c Effective date of plan: 10/01/2001
2a Plan sponsor's name (employer, if for a single-employer plan): F.L. CRANE & SONS, INC.
2b Employer Identification Number (EIN): 64-0409707
2c Plan Sponsor's telephone number: 662-862-2172
2d Business code (see instructions): 238900

Caution: A penalty for the late or incomplete filing of this return/report will be assessed unless reasonable cause is established.

Under penalties of perjury and other penalties set forth in the instructions, I declare that I have examined this return/report, including accompanying schedules, statements and attachments, as well as the electronic version of this return/report, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete.

Table with 4 columns: SIGN HERE, Signature of plan administrator, Date, Enter name of individual signing as plan administrator. Includes rows for employer/plan sponsor and DFE.

For Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions for Form 5500.

Form 5500 (2023) v. 230707

<b>3a</b> Plan administrator's name and address <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Same as Plan Sponsor	<b>3b</b> Administrator's EIN	
	<b>3c</b> Administrator's telephone number	
<b>4</b> If the name and/or EIN of the plan sponsor or the plan name has changed since the last return/report filed for this plan, enter the plan sponsor's name, EIN, the plan name and the plan number from the last return/report: <b>a</b> Sponsor's name <b>c</b> Plan Name	<b>4b</b> EIN	
	<b>4d</b> PN	
<b>5</b> Total number of participants at the beginning of the plan year	<b>5</b>	574
<b>6</b> Number of participants as of the end of the plan year unless otherwise stated (welfare plans complete only lines <b>6a(1)</b> , <b>6a(2)</b> , <b>6b</b> , <b>6c</b> , and <b>6d</b> ). <b>a(1)</b> Total number of active participants at the beginning of the plan year ..... <b>a(2)</b> Total number of active participants at the end of the plan year ..... <b>b</b> Retired or separated participants receiving benefits ..... <b>c</b> Other retired or separated participants entitled to future benefits ..... <b>d</b> Subtotal. Add lines <b>6a(2)</b> , <b>6b</b> , and <b>6c</b> . ..... <b>e</b> Deceased participants whose beneficiaries are receiving or are entitled to receive benefits ..... <b>f</b> Total. Add lines <b>6d</b> and <b>6e</b> . ..... <b>g(1)</b> Number of participants with account balances as of the beginning of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item) ..... <b>g(2)</b> Number of participants with account balances as of the end of the plan year (only defined contribution plans complete this item) ..... <b>h</b> Number of participants who terminated employment during the plan year with accrued benefits that were less than 100% vested.....	<b>6a(1)</b>	325
	<b>6a(2)</b>	311
	<b>6b</b>	119
	<b>6c</b>	125
	<b>6d</b>	555
	<b>6e</b>	4
	<b>6f</b>	559
	<b>6g(1)</b>	547
	<b>6g(2)</b>	556
<b>7</b> Enter the total number of employers obligated to contribute to the plan (only multiemployer plans complete this item).....	<b>7</b>	

**8a** If the plan provides pension benefits, enter the applicable pension feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristics Codes in the instructions:  
2K 2P 2Q 3I

**b** If the plan provides welfare benefits, enter the applicable welfare feature codes from the List of Plan Characteristics Codes in the instructions:

<b>9a</b> Plan funding arrangement (check all that apply)	<b>9b</b> Plan benefit arrangement (check all that apply)
(1) <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance	(1) <input type="checkbox"/> Insurance
(2) <input type="checkbox"/> Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts	(2) <input type="checkbox"/> Code section 412(e)(3) insurance contracts
(3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trust	(3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trust
(4) <input type="checkbox"/> General assets of the sponsor	(4) <input type="checkbox"/> General assets of the sponsor

**10** Check all applicable boxes in 10a and 10b to indicate which schedules are attached, and, where indicated, enter the number attached. (See instructions)

- a Pension Schedules**
- (1)  **R** (Retirement Plan Information)
  - (2)  **MB** (Multiemployer Defined Benefit Plan and Certain Money Purchase Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary
  - (3)  **SB** (Single-Employer Defined Benefit Plan Actuarial Information) - signed by the plan actuary
  - (4)  **DCG** (Individual Plan Information) – Number Attached \_\_\_\_\_
  - (5)  **MEP** (Multiple-Employer Retirement Plan Information)

- b General Schedules**
- (1)  **H** (Financial Information)
  - (2)  **I** (Financial Information – Small Plan)
  - (3)  **A** (Insurance Information) – Number Attached 0
  - (4)  **C** (Service Provider Information)
  - (5)  **D** (DFE/Participating Plan Information)
  - (6)  **G** (Financial Transaction Schedules)

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**Part III Form M-1 Compliance Information (to be completed by welfare benefit plans)**

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**11a** If the plan provides welfare benefits, was the plan subject to the Form M-1 filing requirements during the plan year? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-2.) .....  Yes  No

If "Yes" is checked, complete lines 11b and 11c.

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**11b** Is the plan currently in compliance with the Form M-1 filing requirements? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-2.) .....  Yes  No

**11c** Enter the Receipt Confirmation Code for the 2023 Form M-1 annual report. If the plan was not required to file the 2023 Form M-1 annual report, enter the Receipt Confirmation Code for the most recent Form M-1 that was required to be filed under the Form M-1 filing requirements. (Failure to enter a valid Receipt Confirmation Code will subject the Form 5500 filing to rejection as incomplete.)

Receipt Confirmation Code \_\_\_\_\_

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**SCHEDULE H  
(Form 5500)**

Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

Department of Labor  
Employee Benefits Security Administration

Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation

**Financial Information**

This schedule is required to be filed under section 104 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), and section 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code).

▶ **File as an attachment to Form 5500.**

OMB No. 1210-0110

**2023**

**This Form is Open to Public Inspection**

For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning **10/01/2023** and ending **09/30/2024**

<b>A</b> Name of plan F.L. CRANE & SONS, INC. EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN		<b>B</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	002
<b>C</b> Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 F.L. CRANE & SONS, INC.		<b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) 64-0409707	

**Part I Asset and Liability Statement**

**1** Current value of plan assets and liabilities at the beginning and end of the plan year. Combine the value of plan assets held in more than one trust. Report the value of the plan's interest in a commingled fund containing the assets of more than one plan on a line-by-line basis unless the value is reportable on lines 1c(9) through 1c(14). Do not enter the value of that portion of an insurance contract which guarantees, during this plan year, to pay a specific dollar benefit at a future date. **Round off amounts to the nearest dollar.** MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs do not complete lines 1b(1), 1b(2), 1c(8), 1g, 1h, and 1i. CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs also do not complete lines 1d and 1e. See instructions.

<b>Assets</b>	<b>(a) Beginning of Year</b>	<b>(b) End of Year</b>
<b>a</b> Total noninterest-bearing cash .....	<b>1a</b> 0	0
<b>b</b> Receivables (less allowance for doubtful accounts):		
<b>(1)</b> Employer contributions .....	<b>1b(1)</b> 0	0
<b>(2)</b> Participant contributions .....	<b>1b(2)</b>	
<b>(3)</b> Other .....	<b>1b(3)</b> 7378	5916
<b>c</b> General investments:		
<b>(1)</b> Interest-bearing cash (include money market accounts & certificates of deposit) .....	<b>1c(1)</b> 1715308	6780739
<b>(2)</b> U.S. Government securities .....	<b>1c(2)</b>	
<b>(3)</b> Corporate debt instruments (other than employer securities):		
<b>(A)</b> Preferred .....	<b>1c(3)(A)</b>	
<b>(B)</b> All other .....	<b>1c(3)(B)</b>	
<b>(4)</b> Corporate stocks (other than employer securities):		
<b>(A)</b> Preferred .....	<b>1c(4)(A)</b>	
<b>(B)</b> Common .....	<b>1c(4)(B)</b>	
<b>(5)</b> Partnership/joint venture interests .....	<b>1c(5)</b>	
<b>(6)</b> Real estate (other than employer real property) .....	<b>1c(6)</b>	
<b>(7)</b> Loans (other than to participants) .....	<b>1c(7)</b>	
<b>(8)</b> Participant loans .....	<b>1c(8)</b>	
<b>(9)</b> Value of interest in common/collective trusts .....	<b>1c(9)</b>	
<b>(10)</b> Value of interest in pooled separate accounts .....	<b>1c(10)</b>	
<b>(11)</b> Value of interest in master trust investment accounts .....	<b>1c(11)</b>	
<b>(12)</b> Value of interest in 103-12 investment entities .....	<b>1c(12)</b>	
<b>(13)</b> Value of interest in registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds) .....	<b>1c(13)</b>	
<b>(14)</b> Value of funds held in insurance company general account (unallocated contracts) .....	<b>1c(14)</b>	
<b>(15)</b> Other .....	<b>1c(15)</b>	

<b>1d</b> Employer-related investments:		(a) Beginning of Year	(b) End of Year
(1) Employer securities .....	<b>1d(1)</b>	57691193	71008118
(2) Employer real property .....	<b>1d(2)</b>		
<b>e</b> Buildings and other property used in plan operation .....	<b>1e</b>		
<b>f</b> Total assets (add all amounts in lines 1a through 1e) .....	<b>1f</b>	59413879	77794773
<b>Liabilities</b>			
<b>g</b> Benefit claims payable .....	<b>1g</b>	0	0
<b>h</b> Operating payables .....	<b>1h</b>	0	0
<b>i</b> Acquisition indebtedness .....	<b>1i</b>	10023575	20272906
<b>j</b> Other liabilities .....	<b>1j</b>		
<b>k</b> Total liabilities (add all amounts in lines 1g through 1j) .....	<b>1k</b>	10023575	20272906
<b>Net Assets</b>			
<b>l</b> Net assets (subtract line 1k from line 1f) .....	<b>1l</b>	49390304	57521867

**Part II Income and Expense Statement**

**2** Plan income, expenses, and changes in net assets for the year. Include all income and expenses of the plan, including any trust(s) or separately maintained fund(s) and any payments/receipts to/from insurance carriers. Round off amounts to the nearest dollar. MTIAs, CCTs, PSAs, and 103-12 IEs do not complete lines 2a, 2b(1)(E), 2e, 2f, and 2g.

<b>Income</b>		(a) Amount	(b) Total
<b>a Contributions:</b>			
(1) Received or receivable in cash from: <b>(A)</b> Employers .....	<b>2a(1)(A)</b>	1851080	
<b>(B)</b> Participants .....	<b>2a(1)(B)</b>		
<b>(C)</b> Others (including rollovers) .....	<b>2a(1)(C)</b>		
(2) Noncash contributions .....	<b>2a(2)</b>		1851080
(3) Total contributions. Add lines <b>2a(1)(A)</b> , <b>(B)</b> , <b>(C)</b> , and line <b>2a(2)</b> .....	<b>2a(3)</b>		
<b>b Earnings on investments:</b>			
(1) Interest:			85536
<b>(A)</b> Interest-bearing cash (including money market accounts and certificates of deposit) .....	<b>2b(1)(A)</b>	85536	
<b>(B)</b> U.S. Government securities .....	<b>2b(1)(B)</b>		
<b>(C)</b> Corporate debt instruments .....	<b>2b(1)(C)</b>		
<b>(D)</b> Loans (other than to participants) .....	<b>2b(1)(D)</b>		
<b>(E)</b> Participant loans .....	<b>2b(1)(E)</b>		
<b>(F)</b> Other .....	<b>2b(1)(F)</b>		
<b>(G)</b> Total interest. Add lines <b>2b(1)(A)</b> through <b>(F)</b> .....	<b>2b(1)(G)</b>		85536
(2) Dividends: <b>(A)</b> Preferred stock .....	<b>2b(2)(A)</b>		0
<b>(B)</b> Common stock .....	<b>2b(2)(B)</b>		
<b>(C)</b> Registered investment company shares (e.g. mutual funds) .....	<b>2b(2)(C)</b>		
<b>(D)</b> Total dividends. Add lines <b>2b(2)(A)</b> , <b>(B)</b> , and <b>(C)</b> .....	<b>2b(2)(D)</b>		
(3) Rents .....	<b>2b(3)</b>		
(4) Net gain (loss) on sale of assets: <b>(A)</b> Aggregate proceeds .....	<b>2b(4)(A)</b>		0
<b>(B)</b> Aggregate carrying amount (see instructions) .....	<b>2b(4)(B)</b>		
<b>(C)</b> Subtract line <b>2b(4)(B)</b> from line <b>2b(4)(A)</b> and enter result .....	<b>2b(4)(C)</b>		
(5) Unrealized appreciation (depreciation) of assets: <b>(A)</b> Real estate .....	<b>2b(5)(A)</b>		8714984
<b>(B)</b> Other .....	<b>2b(5)(B)</b>	8714984	
<b>(C)</b> Total unrealized appreciation of assets. Add lines <b>2b(5)(A)</b> and <b>(B)</b> .....	<b>2b(5)(C)</b>		

		(a) Amount	(b) Total
(6) Net investment gain (loss) from common/collective trusts.....	<b>2b(6)</b>		
(7) Net investment gain (loss) from pooled separate accounts.....	<b>2b(7)</b>		
(8) Net investment gain (loss) from master trust investment accounts.....	<b>2b(8)</b>		
(9) Net investment gain (loss) from 103-12 investment entities.....	<b>2b(9)</b>		
(10) Net investment gain (loss) from registered investment companies (e.g., mutual funds).....	<b>2b(10)</b>		
<b>c</b> Other income.....	<b>2c</b>		
<b>d</b> Total income. Add all <b>income</b> amounts in column (b) and enter total.....	<b>2d</b>		10651600

**Expenses**

<b>e</b> Benefit payment and payments to provide benefits:			
(1) Directly to participants or beneficiaries, including direct rollovers.....	<b>2e(1)</b>	2310237	
(2) To insurance carriers for the provision of benefits.....	<b>2e(2)</b>		
(3) Other.....	<b>2e(3)</b>		
(4) Total benefit payments. Add lines <b>2e(1)</b> through <b>(3)</b> .....	<b>2e(4)</b>		2310237
<b>f</b> Corrective distributions (see instructions).....	<b>2f</b>		
<b>g</b> Certain deemed distributions of participant loans (see instructions).....	<b>2g</b>		
<b>h</b> Interest expense.....	<b>2h</b>		209800
<b>i</b> Administrative expenses:			
(1) Salaries and allowances.....	<b>2i(1)</b>		
(2) Contract administrator fees.....	<b>2i(2)</b>		
(3) Recordkeeping fees.....	<b>2i(3)</b>		
(4) IQPA audit fees.....	<b>2i(4)</b>		
(5) Investment advisory and investment management fees.....	<b>2i(5)</b>		
(6) Bank or trust company trustee/custodial fees.....	<b>2i(6)</b>		
(7) Actuarial fees.....	<b>2i(7)</b>		
(8) Legal fees.....	<b>2i(8)</b>		
(9) Valuation/appraisal fees.....	<b>2i(9)</b>		
(10) Other trustee fees and expenses.....	<b>2i(10)</b>		
(11) Other expenses.....	<b>2i(11)</b>		
(12) Total administrative expenses. Add lines <b>2i(1)</b> through <b>(11)</b> .....	<b>2i(12)</b>		0
<b>j</b> Total expenses. Add all <b>expense</b> amounts in column (b) and enter total.....	<b>2j</b>		2520037

**Net Income and Reconciliation**

<b>k</b> Net income (loss). Subtract line <b>2j</b> from line <b>2d</b> .....	<b>2k</b>		8131563
<b>l</b> Transfers of assets:			
(1) To this plan.....	<b>2l(1)</b>		
(2) From this plan.....	<b>2l(2)</b>		

**Part III Accountant's Opinion**

**3** Complete lines 3a through 3c if the opinion of an independent qualified public accountant is attached to this Form 5500. Complete line 3d if an opinion is not attached.

**a** The attached opinion of an independent qualified public accountant for this plan is (see instructions):

(1)  Unmodified (2)  Qualified (3)  Disclaimer (4)  Adverse

**b** Check the appropriate box(es) to indicate whether the IQPA performed an ERISA section 103(a)(3)(C) audit. Check both boxes (1) and (2) if the audit was performed pursuant to both 29 CFR 2520.103-8 and 29 CFR 2520.103-12(d). Check box (3) if pursuant to neither.

(1)  DOL Regulation 2520.103-8 (2)  DOL Regulation 2520.103-12(d) (3)  neither DOL Regulation 2520.103-8 nor DOL Regulation 2520.103-12(d).

**c** Enter the name and EIN of the accountant (or accounting firm) below:

(1) Name: **FRANKS FRANKS WILEMON & HAGOOD P.A.**

(2) EIN: **64-0736635**

**d** The opinion of an independent qualified public accountant is **not attached** as part of Schedule H because:

(1)  This form is filed for a CCT, PSA, DCG or MTIA. (2)  It will be attached to the next Form 5500 pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.104-50.

**Part IV Compliance Questions**

**4** CCTs and PSAs do not complete Part IV. MTIAs, 103-12 IEs, and GIAs do not complete lines 4a, 4e, 4f, 4g, 4h, 4k, 4m, 4n, or 5. 103-12 IEs also do not complete lines 4j and 4l. MTIAs also do not complete line 4l. DCGs do not complete lines 4e, 4f, 4k, 4l, and 5, and DCGs generally complete the rest of Part IV collectively for all plans in the DCG, except as otherwise provided (see instructions).

During the plan year:

	Yes	No	Amount
<b>a</b> Was there a failure to transmit to the plan any participant contributions within the time period described in 29 CFR 2510.3-102? Continue to answer "Yes" for any prior year failures until fully corrected. (See instructions and DOL's Voluntary Fiduciary Correction Program.)		X	
<b>b</b> Were any loans by the plan or fixed income obligations due the plan in default as of the close of the plan year or classified during the year as uncollectible? Disregard participant loans secured by participant's account balance. (Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part I if "Yes" is checked.)		X	
<b>c</b> Were any leases to which the plan was a party in default or classified during the year as uncollectible? (Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part II if "Yes" is checked.)		X	
<b>d</b> Were there any nonexempt transactions with any party-in-interest? (Do not include transactions reported on line 4a. Attach Schedule G (Form 5500) Part III if "Yes" is checked.)		X	
<b>e</b> Was this plan covered by a fidelity bond?	X		1500000
<b>f</b> Did the plan have a loss, whether or not reimbursed by the plan's fidelity bond, that was caused by fraud or dishonesty?		X	
<b>g</b> Did the plan hold any assets whose current value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?		X	
<b>h</b> Did the plan receive any noncash contributions whose value was neither readily determinable on an established market nor set by an independent third party appraiser?		X	
<b>i</b> Did the plan have assets held for investment? (Attach schedule(s) of assets if "Yes" is checked, and see instructions for format requirements.)	X		
<b>j</b> Were any plan transactions or series of transactions in excess of 5% of the current value of plan assets? (Attach schedule of transactions if "Yes" is checked and see instructions for format requirements.)	X		
<b>k</b> Were all the plan assets either distributed to participants or beneficiaries, transferred to another plan, or brought under the control of the PBGC?		X	
<b>l</b> Has the plan failed to provide any benefit when due under the plan?		X	
<b>m</b> If this is an individual account plan, was there a blackout period? (See instructions and 29 CFR 2520.101-3.)		X	
<b>n</b> If 4m was answered "Yes," check the "Yes" box if you either provided the required notice or one of the exceptions to providing the notice applied under 29 CFR 2520.101-3.			

**5a** Has a resolution to terminate the plan been adopted during the plan year or any prior plan year?  Yes  No  
If "Yes," enter the amount of any plan assets that reverted to the employer this year \_\_\_\_\_.

**5b** If, during this plan year, any assets or liabilities were transferred from this plan to another plan(s), identify the plan(s) to which assets or liabilities were transferred. (See instructions.)

5b(1) Name of plan(s)	5b(2) EIN(s)	5b(3) PN(s)

**5c** Was the plan a defined benefit plan covered under the PBGC insurance program at any time during this plan year? (See ERISA section 4021 and instructions.) .....  Yes  No  Not determined

If "Yes" is checked, enter the My PAA confirmation number from the PBGC premium filing for this plan year \_\_\_\_\_.

<b>SCHEDULE R</b> <b>(Form 5500)</b>  <small>Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service</small>  <small>Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration</small>  <small>Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation</small>	<b>Retirement Plan Information</b>  This schedule is required to be filed under sections 104 and 4065 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and section 6058(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code).  <b>▶ File as an attachment to Form 5500.</b>	<small>OMB No. 1210-0110</small>  <b>2023</b>  <b>This Form is Open to Public Inspection.</b>
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For calendar plan year 2023 or fiscal plan year beginning **10/01/2023** and ending **09/30/2024**

<b>A</b> Name of plan <b>F.L. CRANE &amp; SONS, INC. EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN</b>	<b>B</b> Three-digit plan number (PN) ▶	<b>002</b>
<b>C</b> Plan sponsor's name as shown on line 2a of Form 5500 <b>F.L. CRANE &amp; SONS, INC.</b>	<b>D</b> Employer Identification Number (EIN) <b>64-0409707</b>	

<b>Part I</b>	<b>Distributions</b>
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**All references to distributions relate only to payments of benefits during the plan year.**

<b>1</b> Total value of distributions paid in property other than in cash or the forms of property specified in the instructions.....	<b>1</b>	<b>906553</b>
<b>2</b> Enter the EIN(s) of payor(s) who paid benefits on behalf of the plan to participants or beneficiaries during the year (if more than two, enter EINs of the two payors who paid the greatest dollar amounts of benefits): EIN(s): <b>33-6134835</b>		
<b>Profit-sharing plans, ESOPs, and stock bonus plans, skip line 3.</b>		
<b>3</b> Number of participants (living or deceased) whose benefits were distributed in a single sum, during the plan year .....	<b>3</b>	

<b>Part II</b>	<b>Funding Information</b> (If the plan is not subject to the minimum funding requirements of section 412 of the Internal Revenue Code or ERISA section 302, skip this Part.)
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<b>4</b> Is the plan administrator making an election under Code section 412(d)(2) or ERISA section 302(d)(2)? .....	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
<b>If the plan is a defined benefit plan, go to line 8.</b>			
<b>5</b> If a waiver of the minimum funding standard for a prior year is being amortized in this plan year, see instructions and enter the date of the ruling letter granting the waiver. <b>Date:</b> Month _____ Day _____ Year _____ <b>If you completed line 5, complete lines 3, 9, and 10 of Schedule MB and do not complete the remainder of this schedule.</b>			
<b>6 a</b> Enter the minimum required contribution for this plan year (include any prior year accumulated funding deficiency not waived) .....	<b>6a</b>		
<b>b</b> Enter the amount contributed by the employer to the plan for this plan year .....	<b>6b</b>		
<b>c</b> Subtract the amount in line 6b from the amount in line 6a. Enter the result (enter a minus sign to the left of a negative amount) .....	<b>6c</b>		
<b>If you completed line 6c, skip lines 8 and 9.</b>			
<b>7</b> Will the minimum funding amount reported on line 6c be met by the funding deadline? .....	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A
<b>8</b> If a change in actuarial cost method was made for this plan year pursuant to a revenue procedure or other authority providing automatic approval for the change or a class ruling letter, does the plan sponsor or plan administrator agree with the change? .....	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A

<b>Part III</b>	<b>Amendments</b>
-----------------	-------------------

<b>9</b> If this is a defined benefit pension plan, were any amendments adopted during this plan year that increased or decreased the value of benefits? If yes, check the appropriate box. If no, check the "No" box. ....	<input type="checkbox"/> Increase	<input type="checkbox"/> Decrease	<input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input type="checkbox"/> No
---	-----------------------------------	-----------------------------------	-------------------------------	-----------------------------

<b>Part IV</b>	<b>ESOPs</b> (see instructions). If this is not a plan described under section 409(a) or 4975(e)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code, skip this Part.
----------------	---

<b>10</b> Were unallocated employer securities or proceeds from the sale of unallocated securities used to repay any exempt loan? .....	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<b>11 a</b> Does the ESOP hold any preferred stock? .....	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<b>b</b> If the ESOP has an outstanding exempt loan with the employer as lender, is such loan part of a "back-to-back" loan? (See instructions for definition of "back-to-back" loan.) .....	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<b>12</b> Does the ESOP hold any stock that is not readily tradable on an established securities market? .....	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

**Part V Additional Information for Multiemployer Defined Benefit Pension Plans**

**13** Enter the following information for each employer that (1) contributed more than 5% of total contributions to the plan during the plan year or (2) was one of the top-ten highest contributors (measured in dollars). See instructions. Complete as many entries as needed to report all applicable employers.

**a** Name of contributing employer \_\_\_\_\_

**b** EIN \_\_\_\_\_ **c** Dollar amount contributed by employer \_\_\_\_\_

**d** Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box  and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

**e** Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box  and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Base unit measure:  Hourly  Weekly  Unit of production  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**a** Name of contributing employer \_\_\_\_\_

**b** EIN \_\_\_\_\_ **c** Dollar amount contributed by employer \_\_\_\_\_

**d** Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box  and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

**e** Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box  and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Base unit measure:  Hourly  Weekly  Unit of production  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**a** Name of contributing employer \_\_\_\_\_

**b** EIN \_\_\_\_\_ **c** Dollar amount contributed by employer \_\_\_\_\_

**d** Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box  and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

**e** Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box  and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Base unit measure:  Hourly  Weekly  Unit of production  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**a** Name of contributing employer \_\_\_\_\_

**b** EIN \_\_\_\_\_ **c** Dollar amount contributed by employer \_\_\_\_\_

**d** Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box  and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

**e** Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box  and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Base unit measure:  Hourly  Weekly  Unit of production  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**a** Name of contributing employer \_\_\_\_\_

**b** EIN \_\_\_\_\_ **c** Dollar amount contributed by employer \_\_\_\_\_

**d** Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box  and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

**e** Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box  and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Base unit measure:  Hourly  Weekly  Unit of production  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**a** Name of contributing employer \_\_\_\_\_

**b** EIN \_\_\_\_\_ **c** Dollar amount contributed by employer \_\_\_\_\_

**d** Date collective bargaining agreement expires (If employer contributes under more than one collective bargaining agreement, check box  and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, enter the applicable date.) Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

**e** Contribution rate information (If more than one rate applies, check this box  and see instructions regarding required attachment. Otherwise, complete lines 13e(1) and 13e(2).)

(1) Contribution rate (in dollars and cents) \_\_\_\_\_

(2) Base unit measure:  Hourly  Weekly  Unit of production  Other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

**14** Enter the number of deferred vested and retired participants (inactive participants), as of the beginning of the plan year, whose contributing employer is no longer making contributions to the plan for:

<b>a</b> The current plan year. Check the box to indicate the counting method used to determine the number of inactive participants: <input type="checkbox"/> last contributing employer <input type="checkbox"/> alternative <input type="checkbox"/> reasonable approximation (see instructions for required attachment) .....	<b>14a</b>	
<b>b</b> The plan year immediately preceding the current plan year. <input type="checkbox"/> Check the box if the number reported is a change from what was previously reported (see instructions for required attachment) .....	<b>14b</b>	
<b>c</b> The second preceding plan year. <input type="checkbox"/> Check the box if the number reported is a change from what was previously reported (see instructions for required attachment).....	<b>14c</b>	

**15** Enter the ratio of the number of participants under the plan on whose behalf no employer had an obligation to make an employer contribution during the current plan year to:

<b>a</b> The corresponding number for the plan year immediately preceding the current plan year .....	<b>15a</b>	
<b>b</b> The corresponding number for the second preceding plan year .....	<b>15b</b>	

**16** Information with respect to any employers who withdrew from the plan during the preceding plan year:

<b>a</b> Enter the number of employers who withdrew during the preceding plan year .....	<b>16a</b>	
<b>b</b> If line 16a is greater than 0, enter the aggregate amount of withdrawal liability assessed or estimated to be assessed against such withdrawn employers .....	<b>16b</b>	

**17** If assets and liabilities from another plan have been transferred to or merged with this plan during the plan year, check box and see instructions regarding supplemental information to be included as an attachment.....

**Part VI Additional Information for Single-Employer and Multiemployer Defined Benefit Pension Plans**

**18** If any liabilities to participants or their beneficiaries under the plan as of the end of the plan year consist (in whole or in part) of liabilities to such participants and beneficiaries under two or more pension plans as of immediately before such plan year, check box and see instructions regarding supplemental information to be included as an attachment.....

**19** If the total number of participants is 1,000 or more, complete lines (a) and (b):

**a** Enter the percentage of plan assets held as:  
 Public Equity: \_\_\_\_\_% Private Equity: \_\_\_\_\_% Investment-Grade Debt and Interest Rate Hedging Assets: \_\_\_\_\_%  
 High-Yield Debt: \_\_\_\_\_% Real Assets: \_\_\_\_\_% Cash or Cash Equivalents: \_\_\_\_\_% Other: \_\_\_\_\_%

**b** Provide the average duration of the Investment-Grade Debt and Interest Rate Hedging Assets:  
 0-5 years  5-10 years  10-15 years  15 years or more

**20 PBGC missed contribution reporting requirements.** If this is a multiemployer plan or a single-employer plan that is not covered by PBGC, skip line 20.

**a** Is the amount of unpaid minimum required contributions for all years from Schedule SB (Form 5500) line 40 greater than zero?  Yes  No

**b** If line 20a is "Yes," has PBGC been notified as required by ERISA sections 4043(c)(5) and/or 303(k)(4)? Check the applicable box:  
 Yes.  
 No. Reporting was waived under 29 CFR 4043.25(c)(2) because contributions equal to or exceeding the unpaid minimum required contribution were made by the 30th day after the due date.  
 No. The 30-day period referenced in 29 CFR 4043.25(c)(2) has not yet ended, and the sponsor intends to make a contribution equal to or exceeding the unpaid minimum required contribution by the 30th day after the due date.  
 No. Other. Provide explanation.....

**Part VII IRS Compliance Questions**

**21a** Does the plan satisfy the coverage and nondiscrimination tests of Code sections 410(b) and 401(a)(4) by combining this plan with any other plans under the permissive aggregation rules?  Yes  No

**21b** If this is a Code section 401(k) plan, check all boxes that apply to indicate how the plan is intended to satisfy the nondiscrimination requirements for employee deferrals and employer matching contributions (as applicable) under Code sections 401(k)(3) and 401(m)(2).  
 Design-based safe harbor method  
 "Prior year" ADP test  
 "Current year" ADP test  
 N/A

**22** If the plan sponsor is an adopter of a pre-approved plan that received a favorable IRS Opinion Letter, enter the date of the Opinion Letter \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ (MM/DD/YYYY) and the Opinion Letter serial number \_\_\_\_\_.

**F.L. CRANE & SONS, INC.  
EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN**

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2024 and 2023

**F.L. CRANE & SONS, INC.  
EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN**

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**Partners**

*Gary Franks, CPA*

*Bryon Wilemon, CPA*

*Jonathan Hagood, CPA*

*Rudolph Franks, CPA (1933-2019)*

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT**

To the Trustees  
F.L. Crane & Sons, Inc.  
Employee Stock Ownership Plan  
Fulton, Mississippi

**Scope and Nature of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) Audit**

We have performed audits of the accompanying financial statements of F.L. Crane & Sons, Inc. Employee Stock Ownership Plan, an employee benefit plan subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA), as permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) [ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit]. The financial statements comprise the statements of net assets available for benefits as of September 30, 2024 and 2023, and the related statement of changes in net assets available for benefits for the year ended September 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements.

Management, having determined it is permissible in the circumstances, has elected to have the audits of F.L. Crane & Sons, Inc. Employee Stock Ownership Plan's financial statements performed in accordance with ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) pursuant to 29 CFR 2520.103-8 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. As permitted by ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C), our audits need not extend to any statements or information related to assets held for investment of the plan (investment information) by a bank or similar institution or insurance carrier that is regulated, supervised, and subject to periodic examination by a state or federal agency, provided that the statements or information regarding assets so held are prepared and certified to by the bank or similar institution or insurance carrier in accordance with 29 CFR 2520.103-5 of the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA (qualified institution).

Management has obtained certifications from a qualified institution as of September 30, 2024 and 2023, and for the year ended September 30, 2024, stating that the certified investment information, as described in Note 8 to the financial statements, is complete and accurate.

**Opinion**

In our opinion, based on our audits and on the procedures performed as described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section—

- the amounts and disclosures in the accompanying financial statements, other than those agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.
- the information in the accompanying financial statements related to assets held by and certified to by a qualified institution agrees to, or is derived from, in all material respects, the information prepared and certified by an institution that management determined meets the requirements of ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C).

## **Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of F.L. Crane & Sons, Inc. Employee Stock Ownership Plan and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit opinion.

## **Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. Management's election of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit does not affect management's responsibility for the financial statements.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about F.L. Crane & Sons, Inc. Employee Stock Ownership Plan's ability to continue as a going concern for one year after the date the financial statements are available to be issued.

Management is also responsible for maintaining a current plan instrument, including all plan amendments; administering the plan; and determining that the plan's transactions that are presented and disclosed in the financial statements are in conformity with the plan's provisions, including maintaining sufficient records with respect to each of the participants, to determine the benefits due or which may become due to such participants.

## **Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements**

Except as described in the Scope and Nature of the ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) Audit section of our report, our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if, there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.

- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audits in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of F.L. Crane & Sons, Inc. Employee Stock Ownership Plan's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about F.L. Crane & Sons, Inc. Employee Stock Ownership Plan's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

Our audits did not extend to the certified investment information, except for obtaining and reading the certification, comparing the certified investment information with the related information presented and disclosed in the financial statements, and reading the disclosures relating to the certified investment information to assess whether they are in accordance with the presentation and disclosure requirements of accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Accordingly, the objective of an ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C) audit is not to express an opinion about whether the financial statements as a whole are presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

#### **Other Matter – Supplemental Schedules Required by ERISA**

The supplemental Schedule of Assets Held for Investment Purposes at Year End and Schedule of Reportable Transactions are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the financial statements but are supplementary information required by the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The information included in the supplemental schedules, other than that agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, has been subjected to auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. For information included in the supplemental schedules that agreed to or is derived from the certified investment information, we compared such information to the related certified investment information.

In forming our opinion on the supplemental schedules, we evaluated whether the supplemental schedules, other than the information agreed to or derived from the certified investment information, including their form and content, are presented in conformity with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.

In our opinion—

- the form and content of the supplemental schedules, other than the information in the supplemental schedules that agreed to or is derived from the certified investment information, are presented, in all material respects, in conformity with the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under ERISA.
- the information in the supplemental schedule related to assets held by and certified to by a qualified institution agrees to, or is derived from, in all material respects, the information prepared and certified by an institution that management determined meets the requirements of ERISA Section 103(a)(3)(C).

*Franks, Franks, Wilmon & Hagood P.A.*

FRANKS, FRANKS, WILEMON & HAGOOD, P.A.  
Tupelo, Mississippi  
July 14, 2025

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**F. L. CRANE & SONS, INC. EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN**  
**STATEMENTS OF NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS**  
**September 30, 2024 and 2023**

	September 30, 2024		September 30, 2023	
	Allocated	Unallocated	Allocated	Unallocated
		Total		Total
<b>ASSETS</b>				
Investment in sponsor company common stock, at fair value	\$ 46,166,868	\$ 24,841,250	\$ 44,439,061	\$ 13,252,132
Cash	6,780,739	0	1,715,308	0
Other receivables	0	0	0	0
Interest receivable	5,916	0	7,378	0
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>52,953,523</b>	<b>24,841,250</b>	<b>46,161,747</b>	<b>13,252,132</b>
		Total		Total
<b>LIABILITIES</b>				
Acquisition loan payable	0	20,272,906	0	10,023,575
Benefits payable	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>20,272,906</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10,023,575</b>
<b>NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS</b>	<b>\$ 52,953,523</b>	<b>\$ 4,568,344</b>	<b>\$ 46,161,747</b>	<b>\$ 3,228,557</b>
		Total		Total
		<b>\$ 57,521,867</b>		<b>\$ 49,390,304</b>

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

**F. L. CRANE & SONS, INC. EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN**  
**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS**  
**For the Year Ended September 30, 2024**

**ADDITIONS TO NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTED TO**

	<u>Allocated</u>	<u>Unallocated</u>	<u>Total</u>
Contributions:			
Sponsor	\$ 854,650	\$ 996,430	\$ 1,851,080
	<u>854,650</u>	<u>996,430</u>	<u>1,851,080</u>
Investment Income:			
Net appreciation (depreciation) in fair value of investments	6,814,370	1,900,614	8,714,984
Interest	85,536	0	85,536
Allocation of 9,334 shares Company Stock, at fair value	<u>1,347,457</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,347,457</u>
 TOTAL ADDITIONS	 <u>9,102,013</u>	 <u>2,897,044</u>	 <u>11,999,057</u>

**DEDUCTIONS FROM NET ASSETS ATTRIBUTED TO**

Distributions to participants	2,310,237	0	2,310,237
Interest expense	0	209,800	209,800
Allocation of 9,334 shares Company Stock, at fair value	<u>0</u>	<u>1,347,457</u>	<u>1,347,457</u>
 TOTAL DEDUCTIONS	 <u>2,310,237</u>	 <u>1,557,257</u>	 <u>3,867,494</u>
 NET INCREASE (DECREASE) DURING THE YEAR	 6,791,776	 1,339,787	 8,131,563
 NET ASSETS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFITS			
BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>46,161,747</u>	<u>3,228,557</u>	<u>49,390,304</u>
 END OF YEAR	 <u>\$ 52,953,523</u>	 <u>\$ 4,568,344</u>	 <u>\$ 57,521,867</u>

See accompanying notes to the financial statements.

**F.L. CRANE & SONS, INC.**  
**EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**September 30, 2024 and 2023**

**NOTE 1 - DESCRIPTION OF THE PLAN**

The following brief description of the F.L. Crane & Sons, Inc. Employee Stock Ownership Plan (the Plan) is provided for general information purposes only. Participants should refer to the Plan agreement for a more complete description of the Plan's provisions.

The Sponsor Company (Company) established the Sponsor Company Stock Ownership Plan (Plan) effective as of October 1, 2001. The Plan operates as a leveraged employee stock ownership plan (ESOP), and is designed to comply with Section 4975(e)(7) and the regulations thereunder of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended and is subject to the applicable provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended (ERISA). The Plan is administered by a Board of Directors for the Plan. The trust department of an independent third-party bank is the Plan's Trustee.

The Plan purchased Company common shares using the proceeds of a bank borrowing guaranteed by the Company, and holds the stock in a trust established under the Plan. The borrowing is to be repaid by Company contributions to the trust fund. As the Plan makes each payment of principal and interest, an appropriate percentage of stock will be allocated to eligible employees' accounts in accordance with applicable regulations under the Code. Shares vest upon a vesting schedule adopted in the Plan agreement.

The borrowing is collateralized by the unallocated shares of stock and is guaranteed by the Company. The lender has no rights against shares once they are allocated under the ESOP. Accordingly, the financial statements of the Plan for the year ended September 30, 2024 present separately the assets and liabilities and changes therein pertaining to:

- (a) the accounts of employees with vested rights in allocated stock (Allocated) and
- (b) stock not yet allocated to employees (Unallocated).

Eligibility

Employees of the Company are generally eligible to participate in the Plan after one year of service providing they worked at least 1,000 hours during such plan year. Participants who do not have at least 1,000 hours of service during such plan year or are not employed on the last working day of a plan year are generally not eligible for an allocation of Company contributions for such year. Employees must also have attained the minimum age of 18 years to be eligible to participate in the Plan.

Payment of Benefits

No distributions from the Plan will be made until a participant retires, dies (in which case, payment shall be made to his or her beneficiary or, if none, his or her legal representatives), or otherwise terminates employment with the Company. Distributions are made in cash or, if a participant elects, in the form of Company common shares plus cash for any fractional shares. However, currently the Employer Company is a Subchapter S corporation for federal income tax purposes and all distributions are limited to cash without any option given to the participant employee. Under the provisions of the Plan, the Company is obligated to repurchase participant shares which have been distributed under the terms of the Plan as long as the shares are not publicly traded. During the September 30, 2024 and 2023 years, the Company repurchased 5,267 and 5,267 participant shares, respectively at prices determined from the independent appraisal.

**F.L. CRANE & SONS, INC.**  
**EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**September 30, 2024 and 2023**

**NOTE 1 - DESCRIPTION OF THE PLAN - continued**

Voting Rights

At the direction of the Investment Committee, the Plan's Trustee shall have the right, to exercise all voting rights with respect to the Employer Stock held by the Plan; provided, however, that if any Trust Agreement provides for the voting of Employer Stock pledged as security for a loan, then such Stock shall be voted; provided further, however, that if such Employer Stock is not readily tradable on an established market, the Trustee and the Investment Committee shall adopt such procedures as necessary to insure that each Participant whose Employer Stock account includes any shares of Employer Stock are entitled to vote and is afforded a reasonable opportunity to vote the number of shares of Employer Stock, allocated to his Employer Stock Account in the following instances: in respect to each corporate matter as to which shareholders are entitled to vote with respect to approval or disapproval of any corporate merger or consolidation, recapitalization, reclassification, liquidation, dissolution, sale of substantially all assets of a trade or business.

Termination

The Company reserves the right to terminate the Plan and Trust at any time, subject to Plan provisions. Upon termination of the Plan, the interest of each participant in the trust will be distributed to such participant or his or her beneficiary at the time prescribed by the Plan terms and the Code. Upon termination of the Plan, the amount, if any, in a suspense account will revert to the Employer, subject to the conditions of the Treasury regulations permitting such a reversion.

Participant Accounts

The Plan is a defined contribution plan under which a separate individual account is established for each participant. Each participant's account is credited as of the last day of each plan year with an allocation of shares of the Company's common stock released by the Trustee from the unallocated account and forfeitures of terminated participants' non vested accounts. Only those participants who are eligible employees of the Company as of the last day of the plan year will receive an allocation. Allocations are based on a participant's eligible compensation, relative to total eligible compensation.

Vesting

If a participant's employment with the Company ends for any reason other than retirement, permanent disability or death, he or she will vest in the balances in his or her account based on total years of service with the Company. Participant's vest 20 percent per year of service and are 100 percent vested after five years of service.

Put Option

Under Federal income tax regulations, the employer stock that is held by the Plan and its participants and is not readily tradable on an established market, or is subject to trading limitations, includes a put option. Shares of Employer Stock subject to this put option may be offered by the holder of such option only to the Employer in a manner consistent with federal and state laws applicable to such options; provided, however, that the Employer shall have the right, exercisable at any time, to grant the Trustee an option to assume the rights and obligations of the Employer at the time the put option is exercised. The put price is representative of the fair market value of the stock

**F.L. CRANE & SONS, INC.**  
**EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**September 30, 2024 and 2023**

**NOTE 1 - DESCRIPTION OF THE PLAN – continued**

as determined by the Plan provisions. Under certain Plan provisions, the Company can pay for the purchase over a period not to exceed five years. The purpose of the put option is to ensure that the Participant has the ability to ultimately obtain cash.

Diversification

Diversification is offered to participants close to retirement so that they may have the opportunity to move part of the value of their investment in Company stock into investments which are more diversified. Participants who are at least age 55 with at least 10 years of participation in the Plan may elect to diversify a portion of their account. Diversification is offered to each eligible participant over a six-year period. In each of the first five years, a participant may diversify up to 25 percent of the number of post-1986 shares allocated to his or her account, less any shares previously diversified. In the sixth year, the percentage changes to 50 percent. Participants who elect to diversify receive a cash distribution.

Participant Accounts and Forfeitures

Employer contributions, Plan earnings and Plan forfeitures are allocated to each participant's account based upon the relation of the participant's compensation to total compensation for the Plan year. Forfeitures of terminated non-vested account balances allocated to remaining participants at September 30, 2024 and 2023 totaled \$60,581 and \$129,400, respectively.

Plan Administration Costs

The Company absorbs substantially all Plan administration costs.

Benefit Payments

Benefits are recorded when paid.

Contributions

The Company is obligated to make contributions in cash to the Plan which, aggregated with the Plan's dividends and interest earnings, equal the amount necessary to enable the Plan to make its regularly scheduled payments of principal and interest due on its term loan. Employees are not permitted to make contributions.

**NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The following are the significant accounting policies followed by the Plan:

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements of the Plan are prepared using the accrual method of accounting.

**F.L. CRANE & SONS, INC.**  
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**NOTE 2 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – continued**

Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires the plan administrator to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results may differ from those estimates.

Valuation of Investments and Income Recognition

The shares of Company common stock are reported at fair value. See Note 6 for a discussion of the fair value measurements. Dividend income is accrued on the ex-dividend date. Purchases and sales of securities are recorded on a trade-date basis. Realized gains and losses from security transactions are reported on the average cost method. Net appreciation includes the Plan's gains and losses on investments bought and sold as well as held during the year.

Operating Expenses

All expenses of maintaining the Plan are paid by the Company.

Allocations

The financial statements of the Plan present separately the assets and liabilities and changes therein pertaining to the accounts of employees with rights in allocated stock ("allocated") and stock not yet allocated to employees ("unallocated"), including shares that are committed to be released. Shares are released from collateral and become allocated generally in the period which debt service is actually paid.

**NOTE 3 - TAX STATUS**

The plan obtained its latest determination letter on June 26, 2014, in which the Internal Revenue Service stated that the plan, as then designed, was in compliance with the applicable requirements of the Internal Revenue Code. The plan has been amended since receiving the determination letter. However, the plan administrator and the plan's tax counsel believe that the plan is currently designed and being operated in compliance with the applicable requirements of the Internal Revenue Code. Therefore, no provision for income taxes has been included in the plan's financial statements. The Plan's open tax years for the prior three years are subject to examination by the Internal Revenue Service.

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require the plan administrator to evaluate tax positions taken by the Plan and recognize a tax liability for any uncertain position that are more likely than not would not be sustained upon examination by the IRS. The Plan is subject to routine audits by tax authorities; however, there are no audits for any tax periods in progress.

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**NOTE 4 - ADMINISTRATION OF PLAN ASSETS**

The Plan's assets, which consist principally of Sponsor Company common shares, are held by the Trustee of the Plan.

Company contributions are held and managed by the Trustee, which invests cash received, interest, and dividend income and makes distributions to participants. The Trustee also administers the payment of interest and principal on the loan, which is reimbursed to the Trustee through contributions as determined by the Company.

Certain administrative functions are performed by officers or employees of the Company. No such officer or employee receives compensation from the Plan. Administrative expenses for the Trustee's fees are paid directly by the Company.

**NOTE 5 - INVESTMENTS**

The Plan's investments in Sponsor Company common shares at September 30, 2024 and 2023 are as follows:

	<u>2024</u>		<u>2023</u>	
	<u>Allocated</u>	<u>Unallocated</u>	<u>Allocated</u>	<u>Unallocated</u>
Number of shares	319,826	172,090	355,512	106,017
Cost	\$23,882,767	19,616,391	\$25,538,405	9,322,100
Estimated Fair Value	\$46,166,868	24,841,250	\$44,439,061	13,252,132

**NOTE 6 - FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS**

For the years ended September 30, 2024 and 2023, the Plan's investments appreciated (depreciated) in fair value as follows:

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Sponsor Company Stock (Non-Participant Directed)	\$8,714,984	\$12,392,068

Applicable authoritative accounting guidance defines fair value as the exchange price that would be received for an asset or paid to transfer a liability in the principal or most advantageous market for the asset or liability in an orderly transaction between market participants on the measurement date. The framework provides a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes the inputs to valuation techniques used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1 measurements) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3 measurements). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy under FASB ASC 820 are described as follows:

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**NOTE 6 - FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS (continued)**

Level 1 – Inputs to the valuation methodology are unadjusted quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets that the plan has the ability to access.

Level 2 – Inputs to the valuation methodology include

- Quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets;
- Quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in inactive markets;
- Inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset or liability; and
- Inputs that are derived principally from or corroborated by observable market data by correlation or other means.

If the asset or liability has a specified (contractual) term, the Level 2 input must be observable for substantially the full term of the asset or liability.

Level 3 – Inputs to the valuation methodology are unobservable and significant to the fair value measurement.

The asset or liability's fair value measurement level within the fair value hierarchy is based on the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurement. Valuation techniques used need to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs.

Following is a description of the valuation methodologies used for assets measured at fair value. There have been no changes in methodologies used at September 30, 2024 and 2023.

All assets have been valued using a market approach, except Level 3 assets.

*Sponsor's Common Stock* – The fair value of the Company common stock is determined by an annual independent third-party appraisal. This appraisal was based on a combination of the market and income valuation approaches consistent with prior years. The appraiser took into account historical and projected cash flow and net earnings, weighted average cost of capital, market comparables, and applicable discounts and premiums.

The preceding methods may produce a fair value calculation that may not be indicative of net realizable value or reflective of future values. Furthermore, although the plan believes its valuation methods are appropriate and consistent with other market participants, the use of different methodologies or assumptions to determine fair value of certain financial instruments could result in a different fair value measurement at the reporting date.

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**NOTE 6 - FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS (continued)**

The following table sets forth by level, within the fair value hierarchy, the plan's investments in company stock and corporate bonds at fair values as of September 30, 2024 and 2023. The carrying values of receivables and cash included in the accompanying statement of net assets available for benefits approximated fair value at September 30, 2024 and 2023, and are thus not included in the following table.

	<b>Assets at Fair Value</b>			<b>Total</b>
	<b>September 30, 2024</b>			
	<u>Level 1</u>	<u>Level 2</u>	<u>Level 3</u>	
Common Stock - Sponsor			\$ 71,008,119	\$ 71,008,118

	<b>Assets at Fair Value</b>			<b>Total</b>
	<b>September 30, 2023</b>			
	<u>Level 1</u>	<u>Level 2</u>	<u>Level 3</u>	
Common Stock - Sponsor			\$ 57,691,193	\$ 57,691,193

The following table sets forth a summary of changes in the fair value of the plan's Level 3 assets for the year-end September 30, 2024.

<b>Level 3 Assets</b>	
<b>Year Ended September 30, 2024</b>	
	<u>Common Stock - Sponsor</u>
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 57,691,193
Unrealized gains/(losses)	8,714,984
Purchases (dispositions)	<u>4,601,941</u>
Balance, end of year	<u>\$ 71,008,118</u>

**NOTE 7 - EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS**

The Company is obligated to make contributions in cash to the Plan which, when aggregated with the Plan's dividends and interest earnings, equal the amount necessary to enable the Plan to make its regularly scheduled payments of principal and interest due on its term acquisition loan payable.

**NOTE 8 - INFORMATION PREPARED AND CERTIFIED BY TRUSTEE OF THE PLAN**

The following information included in the accompanying financial statements was obtained from data that has been prepared and certified to by Greatbanc Trust Company as complete and accurate by the custodian of the Plan.

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>
Company Stock, at fair value	\$ 71,008,118	\$ 57,691,193
Net appreciation in fair value	8,714,984	12,392,068
Interest income	85,536	99,788

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**NOTE 9 - ACQUISITION LOANS PAYABLE**

The Plan's first acquisition loan payable is comprised of a loan payable to the plan's sponsor. The Loan was dated September 30, 2014 in the amount of \$9,090,000. The Loan requires annual payments of \$599,420 with 2.970% interest through September 2034. The balance of the loan as of September 30, 2024 and 2023 was \$5,121,015 and \$5,555,418, respectively.

The note is collateralized by the investment in the stock of the Plan sponsor. Assets are released from pledge based on a ratio of the annual acquisition loan payments to the total principal and interest payments over the life of the loan. The fair value of assets released from the pledge for the year ending September 30, 2024 and 2023 totaled \$865,924 and \$749,849 respectively.

The Plan's second acquisition loan payable is comprised of a loan payable to the plan's sponsor. The Loan was dated September 29, 2020 in the amount of \$5,504,180. The Loan requires annual payments of \$397,010 with 1.00% interest through September 2035. The balance of the loan as of September 30, 2024 and 2023 was \$4,115,930 and \$4,468,157, respectively.

The note is collateralized by the investment in the stock of the Plan sponsor. Assets are released from pledge based on a ratio of the annual acquisition loan payments to the total principal and interest payments over the life of the loan. The fair value of assets released from the pledge for the year ending September 30, 2024 and 2023 totaled \$481,533 and \$416,983 respectively.

The Plan's third acquisition loan payable is comprised of a loan payable to the plan's sponsor. The Loan was dated September 30, 2024 in the amount of \$11,035,961. The Loan requires annual payments of \$795,955 with 1.00% interest through September 2039. The balance of the loan as of September 30, 2024 and 2023 was \$11,035,961 and \$0, respectively.

The note is collateralized by the investment in the stock of the Plan sponsor. Assets are released from pledge based on a ratio of the annual acquisition loan payments to the total principal and interest payments over the life of the loan. The fair value of assets released from the pledge for the year ending September 30, 2024 and 2023 totaled \$0 and \$0 respectively  
Future maturities of acquisition loan payable are as follows:

2025	\$ 1,488,773
2026	1,512,473
2027	1,536,671
2028	1,561,298
2029	1,586,616
Thereafter	<u>12,587,075</u>
	<u>\$ 20,272,906</u>

**F.L. CRANE & SONS, INC.**  
**EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN**  
**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
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**NOTE 10 - CONCENTRATIONS**

The Plan's financial instruments that are exposed to concentrations of credit risk consist principally of the majority of the Plan's assets being invested in the stock of the Plan sponsor. At September 30, 2024 and 2023, the Plan had \$71,008,118 and \$57,691,193 of investments in the Plan sponsor's stock. The Plan's concentration of credit risk is directly correlated with any credit risk associated with the Plan sponsor. The amount of potential loss associated with this risk concentration is dependent upon the Plan sponsor's ability to remain a going concern.

The Plan's investment in Company stock is also exposed to interest rate risks and market risks, as well as valuation assumptions based on earnings and cash flows. Due to the level of risk associated with the investment in the common stock and to uncertainties inherent in the estimations and assumptions process, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in the value of the common stock will occur in the near term and that such changes could materially affect the amounts reported in the statement of net assets available for benefits.

**NOTE 11 – RELATED-PARTY AND PARTY-IN-INTEREST TRANSACTIONS**

The Plan invests in Company common stock and has indebtedness guaranteed by the Company. These are related party and party-in-interest transactions. As described in Notes 1 and 4, the Company pays the expenses of the Plan. The plan has a number of service providers. Such parties are parties-in-interest under ERISA.

**NOTE 12 - SUBSEQUENT EVENTS**

The Plan's management has evaluated subsequent events through July 14, 2025, the date which the financial statements were available to be issued.

**F.L. CRANE & SONS, INC. EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN**  
**SCHEDULE H, LINE 4J (FORM 5500) - SCHEDULE OF REPORTABLE TRANSACTIONS**  
**September 30, 2024**

Instructions to line 4j of Schedule H to the 2023 Form 5500

EIN 64-0409707/PN 002

(a) Identity of Party	(b) Description of Asset	(c) Purchase/Sale Price	(g) Costs of Asset	(d) Current Value on Transaction Date
F.L. Crane & Sons, Inc.	75,408 shares of company stock	\$ <u>11,035,961</u>	\$ <u>11,035,961</u>	\$ <u>11,035,961</u>

**F.L. CRANE & SONS, INC. EMPLOYEE STOCK OWNERSHIP PLAN  
SCHEDULE OF ASSETS HELD FOR INVESTMENT PURPOSES AT END OF YEAR  
September 30, 2024**

Instructions to line 4i of Schedule H to the 2023 Form 5500

EIN 64-0409707/PN 002

(a)	(b) Issue	(c) Description of Investment	(d) Cost	(e) Current Value
*	F.L. Crane & Sons, Inc.	491,916.3038 shares Common Stock	\$ 43,499,158	\$ 71,008,118
			<u>\$ 43,499,158</u>	<u>\$ 71,008,118</u>

\* Indicates party-in interest to the Plan